

February 24 1943

Most darling Mama:

I have written so little of late that I feel kind of worried about it; but I seem to have less and less time, in fact the days speed by like hours, and each of my hours are occupied to the full.

Had a long enjoyable, gossipy letter from you today; have just read it a second time – The news of [illegible] Gainer's misfeasance was quite interesting – I think [illegible] learned life by experience quite young, but was never promiscuous – just Protestant [illegible]

Sanders had better lookout or he'll be on his way – he was never too popular with certain factions – Poor Rosa Haynes, she was on the verge of weeping the three months I last taught, but covered it with [illegible] griping and haranguing

You mentioned about the weather here; for the 3 weeks proceeding this it has been perfect, by that I mean that I've never experienced more enjoyable weather - the early morning & night an [illegible] chill, but the rest of the day is wonderful – we take off our jackets a great part of the time- The last 2 days have been cloudy & disagreeably cold – I neglected to put on my winter underwear, and consequently have been cold – Have had no colds since being here – in fact I feel better in every respect – Don't get as much sleep as I would like – the dance every Friday nite [sic], and the two weekends to Reno get me behind and I don't have time to catch up

Our training program is more exacting all the time – We spend two days a week in the magazine area handling boxes of ammunition (no danger) & have several courses at night – Have a four hour march coming up tomorrow night from 7pm to 11pm – Went on a 8 mile march last Friday and saw about 15 deer only about ½ miles away – from the distance they looked almost black they were so dark – they weren't near as wild as our deer – The only form of animal life one sees here is jack rabbits – no birds of any description

-mountains are my favorite form of scenery – their appearances are so changeable – For instance yesterday evening it was cold and they were suffused in the richest dark blue color imaginable - up close, except for the spots where there are trees on there (and I've never been close where they are) they are bold and a bit [illegible] looking

Am glad that you are feeling well-In general, how have you felt since I left – Mama I hope you can keep from worrying too much about me, because I want you to be strong & healthy after the war, and Lord knows there will be a long life ahead of us even then

As for my status – stay in the country – We know nothing – I imagine if we were to go across it would be something like a year off – but then we might be retrained here as Depot personnel or I might be put into another company as the head of one to train t as I said before one just has no way of learning anything in the army – no one seems to know anything about one's immediate future

Am sending you two snapshots taken the first week we were here: the background view of the mts is poor as it has no large one in it – The ones you see are about 20 miles away

Tell MM I shall write her as soon as I get time - I hope Philip get to visit home in March

Mother keep sending the Echo – as horrible as it is, I like to get it

Wish you would have two or three more pictures made of these and send them to me – shall send you the money in my next letter – Shall send my bank deposit by money order when my darn travel pay arrives

Tell Ed hello for me

I love you better than the world & when I go some place like Reno – find myself wishing that you and I were there together

Your loving son,

J Harrod

I think I told you that I had some pictures taken in Reno – Shall get them in about 10 days & send to you